

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

W-16J

April 29, 2022

Kevin R. DuPuis Sr., Chairman Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa 1720 Big Lake Road Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Dear Chairman DuPuis:

In a March 31, 2022 letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency invited federally-recognized tribes in Region 5 to consult on EPA's review of Minnesota's 2022 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of Impaired Waters. The 303(d) list is completed by each approved state or federally-authorized tribe as part of the Clean Water Act requirement to assess the condition of their waters and to list those that are impaired.

EPA held a consultation teleconference on April 18, 2022, with representatives of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians. Additionally, the Prairie Island Indian Community sent a written comment to EPA on April 13, 2022.

The tribal representatives raised several concerns that EPA considered in its review of the Minnesota 2022 Impaired Waters List. EPA's response to concerns raised during tribal consultation can be found in Appendix 2 of the EPA's Decision Document.

I would like to thank you for participating in the consultation process. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. David Pfeifer, Chief of the Watersheds and Wetlands Branch, at (312) 353-9024 or pfeifer.david@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

FONG Date: 2022.04.29

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Tera L. Fong

Division Director, Water Division